

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R14-0235.01 Kate McCarthy x2802

SJR14-009

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts and Nicholson, Tochtrop

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Exum,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-009

101 **CONCERNING THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD AND, IN CONNECTION**
102 **THEREWITH, HONORING GUARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR**
103 **FIREFIGHTING EFFORTS.**

1 WHEREAS, Since 1860, the men and women of the Colorado
2 Army National Guard and Air National Guard have served our country in
3 wartime and peace, "always ready, always there", as the first military
4 responders to domestic emergencies affecting our communities, this state,
5 and the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, The frequency and severity of wildfires in Colorado
7 is increasing, and when large wildfires occur in Colorado, members of the
8 Colorado Army National Guard and Air National Guard are frequently
9 called upon to assist civil authorities in their firefighting efforts; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 WHEREAS, During the past two years, more than 120 members
2 of the Colorado Army National Guard and Air National Guard have
3 received training in wildland firefighting and have been equipped to
4 support wildland fire suppression efforts; and

5 WHEREAS, Members of the Colorado Army National Guard and
6 Air National Guard have been called upon to assist firefighting efforts at
7 many fires across the state, including the High Park fire in Larimer
8 county, the Waldo Canyon fire in El Paso county, the Fern Lake fire in
9 Larimer county, the Black Forest fire in El Paso county, the East Peak fire
10 in Huerfano county, the Lime Gulch fire in Jefferson county, and the
11 West Fork Fire Complex in southern Colorado; and

12 WHEREAS, On June 11, 2013, 14 soldiers of the Colorado Army
13 National Guard's 1157th Engineer Firefighter Company joined more than
14 120 other members of the Colorado Army National Guard and Air
15 National Guard who were assisting civil authorities with firefighting
16 support at the Black Forest fire in El Paso county; and

17 WHEREAS, On June 22, 2013, 75 members of the Colorado
18 National Guard mobilized to fight the ongoing fire activity in Colorado,
19 and 15 members of the Colorado Army National Guard's 1-157th Infantry
20 Battalion joined an Interagency Type II Handcrew and deployed to the
21 East Peak fire in Huerfano county and spent 5 days securing the line on
22 this fire; now, therefore,

23 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly*
24 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

25 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

26 (1) Commend the men and women of the Colorado National
27 Guard who have tirelessly assisted civil authorities with wildfire
28 suppression and support;

29 (2) Extend our deep gratitude to the brave and admirable service
30 of the Colorado National Guard; and

31 (3) Affirm that the Colorado National Guard fulfills its motto of
32 "always ready, always there".

1 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
2 to Governor John Hickenlooper; Major General H. Michael Edwards, The
3 Adjutant General for Colorado; Brigadier General Peter Byrne, Director
4 of Joint Staff; Michael Hunt, Deputy Executive Director, Colorado
5 Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; General Frank J. Grass,
6 Chief of the National Guard Bureau; and Paul Cooke, Director of the
7 Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control.